"Hoke County needed this kind of boost after being hit hard by the recession," said Sen. Michael Walters, of Fairmount. "We have worked nonstop alongside Governor Perdue to create every job we can in North Carolina."

"This is what happens when we ignore the critics who say 'cut, cut, cut,' and instead hold true to our values and continue to invest in education and worker training," said Rep. Garland Pierce, of Wagram. "We are able to build the kind of educated workforce and infrastructure that fuel the growth of companies like Unilever."

North Carolina continues to have a top-ranked business climate. Through Gov. Perdue's JobsNOW initiative, the state works aggressively to create jobs, train and retrain its workforce, and lay the foundation for a strong and sustainable economic future.

Through use of the One NC Fund, more than 50,000 jobs and \$9 billion in investment have been created since 2001. Other partners that helped with this project include: the N.C. Department of Commerce, N.C. Community Colleges, the City of Raeford, Hoke County and Hoke County Economic Development.

For more information about Unilever, including job opportunities, go to www.unileverusa.com.

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